THE IDENTITY OF HELIX DEPRESSIFORMIS AND H. PROSTRATA PEASE

BY HENRY A. PILSBRY AND C. MONTAGUE COOKE

Two of Pease's Helices described[1] from the "Central Pacific" have baffled all attempts at identification by other naturalists. The present writers, separately and together, had time and again gone over the descriptions, finally giving them up, as the types could not then be found in the Pease collection. One of us (C. M. C.) recently worked over Pease's shells at Cambridge, finding the original specimens of both *H. depressiformis* and *H. prostrata*, which had been misplaced in the collection. These have now been examined by both of us.

The specimens of *H. depressiformis* were contained in a vial also containing examples of *Pterodiscus alatus* (Pfr.). Labels of both species in Pease's handwriting were present. Pease's species proves to be a very young shell of *Trochomorpha swainsoni* (Pfr.), a Raiatean (Society Island) species. We find that the unique type of *Planamastra peaseana* Pils. (Man. Conch., XXI, 130) is a still younger example of the same species. Its locality "Hawaiian Islands" (from Pease) was clearly erroneous.

Helix prostrata Pease turns out to be *Planorbis opercularis* Gld., a common West American shell. We were able to examine the dentition, as the animal was dried in one of Pease's specimens. Pease's description is fairly good, but it is hardly surprising that the species was not recognized before; the generic reference and locality effectually disguised it.

COLLECTING ON AN ABALONE

BY F. W. KELSEY

Some of my young friends who collect shells at the seashore may be interested in the following method of getting specimens for a collection, when better means are not at hand.

[1] Proc. Zool. Soc., London, 1864, p. 670. They were placed with doubt in the genus *Planamastra* in Manual of Conchology, XXI, pp. 131, 132.

On May fourteenth of this year I took a boat trip to the Coronado Islands, in Mexican waters, about twenty miles southwest of San Diego. Arriving at the anchorage at high tide, shore collecting was out of the question, so I went out with the skipper and mate in a glass-bottomed boat to a portion of the cove known as the "Marine Gardens". The water is very clear and at points where it is from two to three fathoms deep the view of the waving kelp, sea moss, grasses, shells and many colored fish is exceedingly interesting.

With a long-handled trident, or spear, the skipper would occasionally dislodge an abalone from the rocks, turn it over on its back and with a prong of the spear pierce the flesh of the mollusk and bring it up to the boat. About a dozen fine specimens were thus obtained, one being *Haliotis corrugata* Gray and all the remainder *Haliotis fulgens* Phil. The backs of several shells were covered with moss and other growths which I removed with my pocket knife from the backs of seven shells to be brought home for examination. The scrapings were treated to an all-night bath in a three-percent solution of formaldehyde, then rinsed and thoroughly dried, when they were shaken out and carefully examined for shells. From the material scraped from the seven shells I picked ninety-four specimens, including the twenty-five species which follow.

Amphissa versicolor Dall.
Assiminea californica Cooper.
Cerithiopsis columna Cpr.
Lasea rubra Mont.
Lacuna unifasciata Cpr.
Lacuna solidula Loven.
Mangilia striosa C. B. Ads.
Littorina planaxis Nutt. (juv.).
Odostomia americana D. & B.
Odostomia tenuisculpta Cpr.
Phasianella compta pulloides Cpr.
Fissurella volcano crucifera Dall.
Pecten, sp. (juv.).
Crepidula dorsata Brod.
Columbella aurantiaca Dall.
Columbella gausapata Gld.
Eulithidium substriatum Cpr.
Acmaea paleacea Gld.
Acmaea rosacea Cpr.
Acmaea asmi Midd.
Saxicava rugosa Linn.
Philobrya setosa Cpr.
Marginella regularis Cpr.
Psephis tantilla Gld. (1 valve).
Cardita subquadrata Cpr.